

Bitter Personal Clashes In Senate Treaty Debate

McCumber Charges Foes of Pact With Pro-Germanism and Refuses to Re- tract on Reed's Demand

Hitchcock Joins in Fray

La Follette and Brandegee Would Drop Discussion Till Lansing Gives Facts

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Heated personal interchanges between Senators on both sides of the peace treaty fight made today's debate in the Senate the most bitter that has taken place since the document was submitted to the Senate by the President for ratification.

Senator McCumber, Republican, of North Dakota, replying to an attack upon the Shantung provision of the treaty, charged the opponents of the treaty with pro-Germanism. The charge was quickly refuted by Senator Reed, of Missouri, who demanded a retraction, which was refused.

Senator Reed and Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, administration leaders in the treaty fight, later engaged in an altercation. Senator Hitchcock disputed Senator Reed's interpretation of the arbitration provision of the treaty, and the Missouri Senator declared that he was unable to interpret the treaty as the Senator from Nebraska, and referred to Senator Hitchcock's resolution placing an embargo upon the exportation of arms to the Allies, which Senator Reed said Senator Hitchcock had introduced in the Senate after the sinking of the Lusitania.

Hitchcock Denies It

Senator Hitchcock jumped to his feet and denied that he had proposed the embargo after the sinking of the ship. "I introduced the resolution in December, 1914," he said.

Senator Reed said that if Senator Hitchcock wanted to insist upon that statement he would accept it, but he produced the record of the Senate to show that Senator Hitchcock had introduced the measure in December, 1915, seven months after the Lusitania was sunk.

"I will always defend the bill," Senator Hitchcock declared. "I introduced it in the interest of neutrality."

During the course of Senator Lodge's unopposed address on the Shantung settlement Senators Reed, La Follette, of Wisconsin, and Brandegee, of Connecticut, all of whom are "irreconcilables" and favor the rejection of the treaty, questioned the Republican leader at length regarding the refusal of President Wilson to transmit documents bearing upon the treaty to the Senate.

Reed Demands Facts

Referring to the refusal of Secretary of State Lansing to approve transmitting to the Senate the Department of Commerce's report on the Chinese railways and the reports of American representatives on the Chinese-Chinese relations, Senator Reed declared:

"To expect the Senate to pass upon an important document without knowing the facts is to expect the Senate to submit to being played the fool with."

"I am tired of dealing with the case without the papers, and think the Senate ought to take that attitude. So far as I am concerned, I think consideration of the treaty ought to be laid aside absolutely until the Executive papers the Senate in possession of the papers."

Senators La Follette and Brandegee also declared that the Senate should drop consideration of the treaty until the President has furnished the Senate with the documents he has been asked for.

"I feel that we know about all that we are likely to know," said Senator Lodge, "and for these reasons would be glad to go ahead and finish the treaty's consideration."

Lodge Wants Vote at Once

Senator Lodge said later that any move to have consideration of the treaty dropped until the President is "back on the job" does not have his support.

He passed upon by the chair. Senator McCumber insisted that he had the floor and would not yield.

Rules in Reed's Favor

"I am unwilling that the Senator proceed until his insinuation that impugns the honor of the Senate shall be passed upon," said Senator Reed.

Senator Ball, after reading the Senate rule touching upon the point of order, decided in favor of Senator Reed. After this Senator Reed said he was perfectly willing to withdraw the point and to let the Senator from North Dakota proceed.

Upon resuming his speech Senator McCumber declared:

"I suppose that every one has his own views as to what constitutes an impugning of honor. I have mine, and any remark that has been made from any source has not changed my opinion. I am perfectly willing that any Senator may accept that explanation from me."

Japanese Policy

Attacked by Lodge

Shantung Amendment Is

Defended by Senator

From Massachusetts

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Speaking before the Senate to-day in behalf of the Shantung amendment to the peace treaty, Senator Lodge made a vigorous attack upon Japan's policy in the Far East.

"The principal argument made by those who sustain the delivery of the control of Shantung to Japan under this treaty of peace with Germany is that Japan has promised at different times to return it to China," said Mr. Lodge.

"Whatever promises she may have made, whether verbal or written, have not been kept. I do not believe in instance do I find that Japan ever fixed a time when she would actually return the province to its rightful owners. Even in the promises she made there are reservations which would give her military control of Kiaochow and economic control of the province."

"Japan is likely to do it is necessary to consider what she has done during the past twenty-five years. If we find in the history of that country that Japan has consistently advanced in her control of China, has constantly invaded Chinese rights and taken over Chinese territory, it seems to me absolute proof that this country will be detrimental to the commerce of the Western nations."

"But after we have agreed with these propositions the question arises as to the fact. How are you going to settle it? How are you going to arrest this territory from Japan?"

Does the Senator from Massachusetts believe that if we insert the name 'China' in Articles 156, 157 and 158 in the place of the word 'Japan' that has set this question?"

"Japan's answer would be: 'Well, what are you going to do about it? What will be our reply? Will it be war? If it is not war it is not anything, and I am opposed to pointing a gun which is unloaded, and when the treaty is unloaded, to my mind it is far better from a standpoint of national honor as well as the viewpoint of a practical settlement that we do not attempt to do that which we do not intend to carry out.'"

In the course of the debate Senator Reed alluded to Japan as having stolen Shantung. Senator McCumber replied that promiscuous epithets should not be applied to nations associated with the United States in the war.

Reed Demands Retraction

"I know that since the war has practically closed a great many Senators are inclined to consider the nations as our enemies," Mr. McCumber said, "and Germany seems to be more an object of solicitation than our friends who helped us to defeat Germany. I think the Japanese people have some sense of national honor and integrity, and I would rather stand upon that and say to Japan 'We stand upon it.'"

"I am going to ask if the Senator, when he said that some Senators were becoming more 'solicitous' about Germany, meant that and if so, I want him to name the Senators."

"There have been a great many arguments on the floor of the Senate," replied Mr. McCumber, "and I am filled with hatred, filled almost with curses of our principal ally (Great Britain) in this great struggle and in the attempts to prevent the adoption of the league of nations they have been made on the assumption that we must guard ourselves in every particular that there could not be a decision against us, even though we were in the wrong. That has been followed by arguments on the floor that we were in effect getting such a grip on the throat of Germany that we would strangle her to death for all time. That is what I mean and that is sufficient for me."

Point of Order Raised

"This cry of pro-Germanism has become very frequent here," retorted Senator Reed, "generally more by insinuation than by direct statement."

"I had not used the word 'pro-Germanism' myself," declared Senator McCumber.

"The Senator came very near it," replied Mr. Reed, "but if he wishes to retract it now I have nothing to say."

"I have no desire to retract anything I stated," snapped Mr. McCumber.

"If the Senator does not propose to retract then I propose, under the rules of the Senate to have this matter settled right now," insisted Mr. Reed.

"I have the floor and I decline to yield," returned Mr. McCumber. "We will see whether the rules of the Senate will be enforced or not."

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